

Millbrook Market makes a move

Market becomes package store

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The closed Millbrook Market will relocate across St. George Street and reopen as a liquor store, a move Duxbury selectmen approved this week.

Millbrook Market owners Gary and Susan Durant closed their store at 277 St. George St. at the end of the summer after 15 years in business.

They were forced to leave after a change in the building's ownership, said their attorney Robert Galvin.

They plan to re-open across the street in the location of Sugar, a gift store adjacent to FarFar's ice cream shop, which closed at the end of September.

As this new space is small-

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er, Galvin said the Durants can't run a deli/convenience store as they had at Millbrook Market so, instead, they wanted to keep their all alcoholic liquor license and become a package store.

Galvin said that Millbrook Market was caught selling liquor to an underage person in a police sting nine years ago, but since that time, there have been no other issues. The store uses a license scanner, which verifies the information on the front of the license any time store employees card someone who buys alcohol or cigarettes. This system will continue to be used in the new package store.

Selectmen voted unanimously to approve the change of location for the Durant's liquor license. This change received positive recommendations from the police and fire departments, the director of inspectional services, and the board of health. The town treasurer also signed off on the change as the Durants have paid all their taxes and license fees.

Steve Carleton, who owns the FarFar's building and other adjacent buildings, urged selectmen to take the change of location request under advisement until the board received an application for a liquor license from the new neighborhood grocery store that has taken over the old Millbrook Market space.

He said the new grocery store was an anchor in the Millbrook area and would need every advantage to survive.

"We see the success of the grocery store to be vital to the economy of that area,"

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said Carleton. "If you say yes to one (store getting a liquor license) you are more or less saying no to another."

Selectmen Chairman Shawn Dahlen said the board could only "deal with the one issue that is before us," adding that the selectmen are not in the role of deciding who will be in business and who won't be unless that business is detrimental to the community.

"In this case, the applicant has an alcohol license and has sold alcoholic beverages for years," said Dahlen. "There are no issues with the police and fire departments. If someone conducts their business in an appropriate way, I don't see any difference in their crossing the street. We obviously have to take the next case up

when it comes up."

"There's nothing wrong with competition," Dahlen added.

IN OTHER BUSINESS, SELECTMEN:

- Voted unanimously to alter the liquor license for the Sun Tavern restaurant on Congress Street so liquor can be served on its patio space. Owner Larry Friedman said the 13 by 28 foot outdoor eating space, which contains seven tables, has the same hours as the restaurant.
- Approved a permit for a yard sale fundraiser at the Duxbury Student Union on Oct. 15 from 9-3 p.m. Donations of saleable goods can be made at the DSU on St. George Street during business hours.
- Accepted the resignation of Michael Gill from the Zoning Board of Appeals and appointed Wayne Dennison to fill this position.
- Announced there will be an opportunity for residents to rid themselves of their expired, unused or unwanted prescription drugs with no questions asked on Saturday, Oct. 29 at the Duxbury Senior Center from 10-2 p.m. This date was set by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration as it coincides with the town's special Town Meeting.
- Learned that Town Manager Richard MacDonald has been informed by the state's attorney general's office that it is opening an investigation into NStar's lack of response to Duxbury town officials during tropical storm Irene in August. The attorney general will review Duxbury's complaints that NStar did not respond to the town nor communicate with emergency workers regarding their inquiries about downed electrical wires. The Attorney General's office will conduct a series of public hearings to gather information. Also, MacDonald has been trying to contact NStar to have a representative appear before the board of selectmen but no date has been set yet.